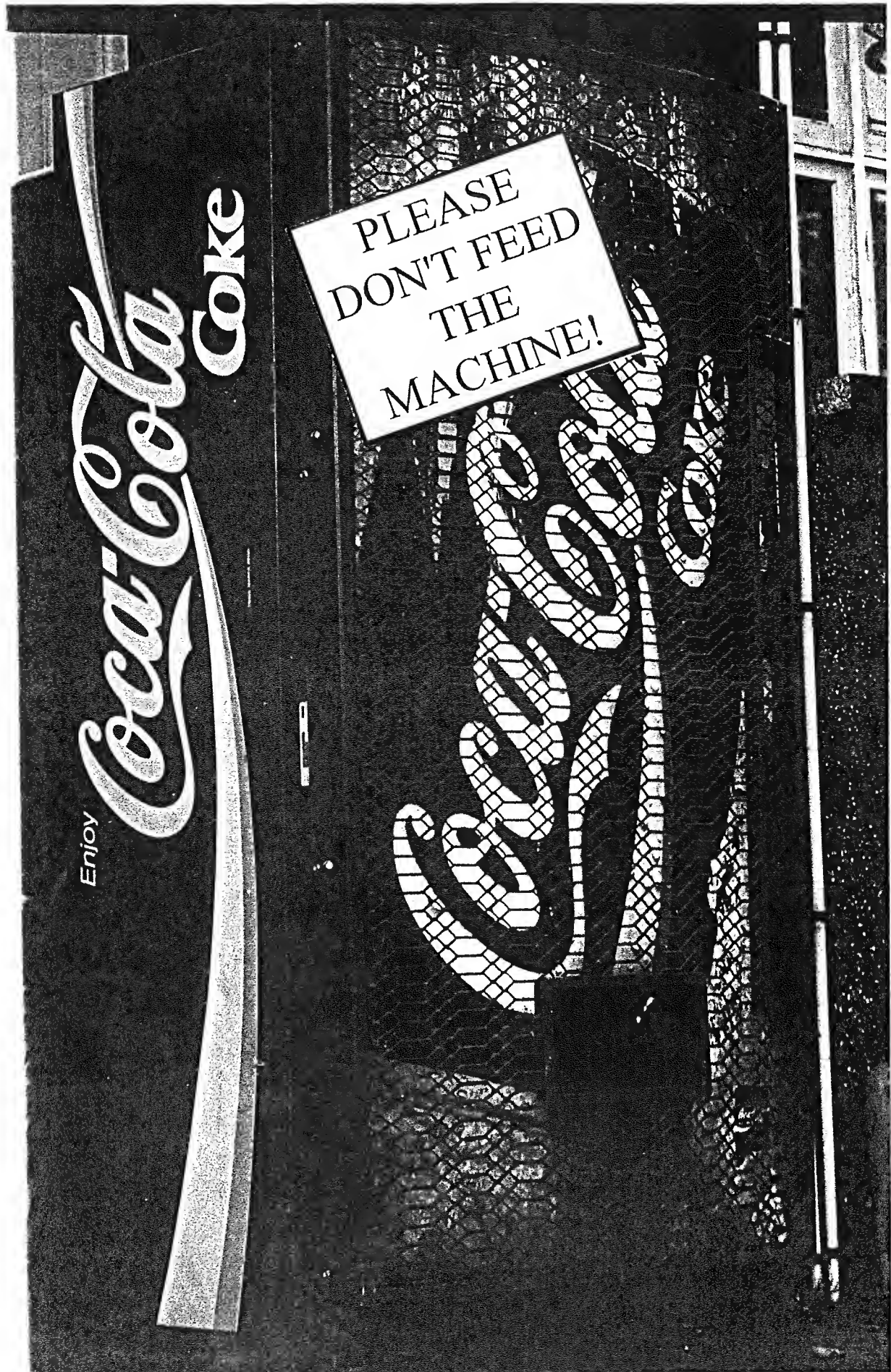


# Aotearoa Youth Network



# WHAT IS AOTEAROA YOUTH NETWORK?

The Aotearoa Youth Network is an organisation dedicated to building links between youth who are active in "progressive" politics. It is open to all and seeks to provide a place for discussion, learning and action across organisations, individuals and causes.

AYN was established at the 1993 Peace, Power and Politics Conference, where over 600 people (including over 150 young people) gathered. The main activity of AYN so far has been the production of a monthly newsletter, which presently goes to over 120 people, and reaches a far wider audience. AYN has established a positive presence in the progressive peoples' movement, and hopes to go beyond "networking" to assist in the formation of new organisations and groups.

We want to put anything in this magazine that you can write - news, articles, poetry, letters, anything. The more you write in, the more this magazine acts as a networking tool. We attempt to print anything you send without cutting but please note:

- We will not print anything that is overtly racist, sexist, homophobic or offensive to any marginalised group. If you want to debate issues that may offend people, try and be very clear about what you are trying to do, and why.

Write to AYN at:  
c/ - The Web Resource Centre  
111 Moray Place  
Dunedin.

## A RESPONSE TO:

### 1993 THE YEAR WE DID SHIT

Dear AYN Collective,

Mark Grindlay writes (AYN newsletter No. 9, Feb. '94) that "it is internal squabbling which has destroyed every previous movement the Left has ever got going" and calls for an end to "petty squabbles over ideology and political correctness". I don't agree, I believe Left movements are more likely to be killed off by a lack of internal debate. Debates are usually killed off by one of two facilities;

1/ "We must all appear to be absolutely in unity on this matter, or nobody will take us seriously", minor disagreements are seen as huge divisions, often leads to Lowest Common Denominator Liberalism of the "Here's something everyone can agree on" variety, hence tree-planting, spiral dances and other non-confrontationalist activities become the only acceptable activity.

2/ "Yes, Yes, we do need more debate, but right now we are much too busy (The world is going to end soon) so we will do that latter, in the mean time, let's get on with things" ie. Left-Wing Panic Syndrome.

Both of these attitudes are sometimes euphemisms for "In the name of unity, we must DO AS I SAY". This can also be expressed by playing the role of the Expert: "This is the way things have to be done" (a patronising tone helps), or the emotional victim: "How can you possibly do this, you'll destroy everything I've worked so hard to create, why is everyone against me... etc." (tears are optional)

I agree with Mark that some historical debates have outlived their 'use by' date, but are debates on the role of the Patriarchy or the nature of democracy petty squabbles? They may seem so to some people, but to women and other marginalised groups these things are important. If we don't thrash these and other issues out, we will find our movements running around like headless chickens, lots of activity, but no sense of direction, or worse, striding determindly in completely the wrong direction.

Mark cites the Fascist victory in Spain as an example [Readers Note: Discussions about the Spanish and Soviet Revolutions, Kronstadt, the Second Internationale, and other things that happened a long time ago on the other side of the world are a hobby of many Leftists, and should not be mistaken for genuinely useful political debate], I would say that the Left failed in Spain due to it's adherence to the "Let's stick together to defeat Fascism, then later on we'll get around to having a revolution" doctrine (The Fascists possession of lots of guns, aircraft and military skills helped a bit too), and while the Left busily fought Fascists, their conservative allies, represented by the Stalinist Communist Party, took over the government, crushed the trade unions, imprisoned or shot their opponents, then sent its armies to smash the peasant collectives. Funnily enough, the Left didn't seem too keen to fight for the government after that.

If you have lively, relevant debate going on, it should attract, not alienate 'the kids'.

The real danger for student activism is that it may become only that - a student movement, typically activity that is virtually unnoticed beyond the campus boundaries, vanishes during the holidays, and ceases altogether when its leaders graduate, and get suits and jobs. If students really want to achieve something, they must link up with other activists and not limit their demands to education issues. Then, as the walls of 1968 Paris read "The only limits are our imaginations". It would be a shame if the AYN became nothing but a campus network.

• Yours, &c.  
Sam Buchanan.

**"POLITICIANS,  
YOU'VE SOLD  
OUR  
HERITAGE,  
DRAINED THE  
LIFE BLOOD OF  
OUR COUNTRY,  
WE WILL RE-  
CLAIM WHAT  
YOU HAVE  
TAKEN, WE  
WILL RECLAIM  
OUR  
SOVEREIGNTY."**

AUWRC 1994

## DARE TO STRUGGLE, DARE TO SING

An exciting development from the Building Our Own Future project (BOOF) has been the coming together of politically like-minded people in using the medium of music, art, dance and drama to communicate our vision, to inspire and to energise all those involved.

Loosely called the cultural sector of the BOOF project, fifteen people from throughout the country gathered at Otimai camp, West Auckland from 3rd to 5th February.

The gathering included skills training, confidence building and development of small dramas on particular themes which we hoped to present at the national gathering in Wellington.

We were led through an art activity which resulted in the painting of a huge banner with the slogan "Dare to Struggle, Dare to Sing". We all contributed to its production both in ideas and in brushstrokes. Those of us convinced about our lack of ability with the brush were encouraged and motivated by the team approach to the exercise.

As a group of fifteen we had amazing skills among us. One could not call us professional in the strict sense but we were able to achieve a high degree of

professionalism in what we produced.

Such words as professionalism can be off-putting and can discourage people who have a lot to contribute but lack the confidence. Such questions were openly debated throughout the days together.

The most essential element of our theatre and song is that it is produced by the people for the people. It is about our lives, our concerns. It is about reclaiming art and culture for ourselves and to remove the so-called "elite" status it has gained over the years.

One of our number, Lisa Beech, a musician from Fielding, has spent time in the Philippines and witnessed first hand the power of music and art on the streets and in the peoples' struggle. Such activities are given a high priority in that country and not considered an appendage.

In fact poets and singers are often imprisoned or shot in such repressive regimes to silence the power of their messages.

The term "cultural workers" is often used in Asian countries to highlight the importance given to this work. During our time together at Otimai we committed ourselves to setting up an



incorporated society called  
"Street Art Aotearoa".

We developed our own kaupapa which is reproduced here and began work on a constitution. This will enable us to be clearly focused on the role we are to play and to welcome new workers who want to join us in this work.

- Auckland Unemployed Workers Rights Centre.

## *STREET ART AOTEAROA KAUPAPA*

We are artists and performers working for social change by using creative tools to express our reality, to encourage our struggle, and to organise political action.

### Aims of the organisation

1. To encourage the creation and performance of works of art as tools of political organisation in order to work for fundamental economic, political and social change from a grassroots base.
2. To develop training for people involved in cultural work.
3. To build links with other artists and performers working for social change in Aotearoa and internationally.
4. To build links with people's organisations in order to contribute to building a wider people's movement.
5. To access, co-ordinate and share resources for cultural work.

- If you would like to become part of the Street Art Aotearoa Network please contact Lisa Beech at 31 Park View Ave Fielding.



Making a song and dance about it!!

## *Political Revival in June*

**"To be boring is the greatest sin of all"**

Wellington's political revival starts this Queen's Birthday Weekend, when activists from all over the country converge on the city for this year's new look National Peace Workshops at the Tapu Te Ranga Marae, Island Bay.

This will be the first time the workshops have been held mid-winter. Workshops have previously been tucked away at a crucial time in the academic year, making it nearly impossible for exam sitting students to attend. The recent influx of activists into the peace movement with events such as the Waihopai protests and the Peace, Power and Politics conference means that the face of the movement is changing.

While the workshops focus on peace movement issues, they include discussion of wider concepts such as anarchism, social issues and the environment. "The idea is to encourage people to 'think holistically, act specifically,'" says Kate Andrews, a Wellington based activist. Organisers have also organised practical 'hands on' workshops, useful to everyone

involved in campaigning for social change. These include networking and decision making, avoiding burnout, printing and graphic design.

"This year's workshops cover a broad range of issues, and we have been fortunate in securing a stimulating group of contributors. Hopefully this weekend will provide something practical and provocative for everyone who comes along," says Kate Andrews. She hopes to create an environment which will see more experienced activists sharing skills, and new activists bringing fresh ideas into the movement. "The peace movement is too important to languish in the doldrums of tradition," she says.

The National Peace Workshops is an opportunity for the peace movement to gather and discuss ideas and directions with activists from within its circle, and from other movements. It is also a chance to meet like minded individuals and have a great time. Organisers hope to appeal to as wide a group as possible.

- For information: contact Amy or Julie at PMA, PO Box 9314, Wellington. Ph. (04) 382 8129.



# *Political Revival*

## NATIONAL PEACE WORKSHOPS

Queens Birthday Weekend 4—6 June 1994

### Once a year...

...activists from every corner of the country converge on a chosen spot to meet each other, put faces to reputations, and plot actions for the near future. The 1994 National Peace Workshops are being held at Tapu Te Ranga Marae, 44 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington.

### Workshops Include:

Julie Cuttance	Domestic violence as a peace issue
Elizabeth Putnam	Using consensus effectively
Sam Buchanan	Anarchism and peace
Nicky Hager	New Zealand Intelligence Agencies
Sam Fisher	Peace Brigades International
Jody Hamilton	Young People in Politics

#### Role of media in politics (panel discussion)

Simon Collins	Alternative media
Michael Kopp	Loyalties of the 90s journos
Victoria Quaid	Community radio
Sam Fisher	Use and abuse of the mainstream media

Erich Geiringer	World Court Project
Cybele Locke	Aotearoa Youth Network
Jan Logie	Feminism as a peace issue
Nicola Easthope	Networking with Youth
Jo Buchanan	Design and printing
Warren Thomson	Anti-Bases Campaign

#### Other Workshops include:

Living an activist lifestyle without burning out  
Accessing information  
Guide to the legal system  
Activism in an MMP landscape

Speakers and topics subject to change

### Also offering:

Panel discussions on the future of solidarity groups, GATT and environmental issues.

A special private showing of John Pilger and David Munro's documentary on East Timor, *Death of a Nation*.

Kayaking—massage—face painting—treasure hunt—impromptu discussions—live music—rug-making—bushwalks—juggling—and more!

For a low-cost, fun and inspirational holiday weekend in the company of the country's finest activists, no peacenik should look further this year.

Registration fees (\$80 waged, \$60 unwaged) will include yummy meals (vegetarian and vegan available), marae-style accommodation from Friday evening to Monday morning, shuttle transport, a range of activities and excellent discussions. Creche available.

### For further information:

Please contact Amy at the Peace Movement Aotearoa office  
Ph/Fax: (04) 382-8129, or write to: PO Box 9314—Te Aro—WELLINGTON

# MOVEMENT BUILDING

## Notes for National University students conference - February Workshops, 1994.

### The importance of campaigning and movement building.

- Most movements have been flat over the last 10 years
- but it is important not to make assumptions about what's impossible at the moment - anything's possible.

- especially in the current environment
- political scene is incredibly fluid. MMP, minimum youth rates etc.
- Will remain fluid for the next 6 years, but by then new (old) Status Quo will have reorganised and set itself in concrete.

Movement building is very important - real social change is achieved with participatory democracy (eg. NZ's nuclear free debate)

- There is no lack of motivation in this country - people are bloody pissed off with the New Right and their policies - what is missing is the organisers to get them active - that's us.

There are special problems with building and sustaining a student movement - the transitory nature of the student population.

- cyclical pressures of exams and holidays
- therefore it is essential that the big issues of tertiary education are addressed:- issues that go beyond just day to day student concerns.

Importance of the student movement as part of the broader progressive movement

- fighting education as your own issue, in isolation from what else is going on in the country is a recipe for always losing
- working in the New Right's paradigm
- not combating the core of what the new right are doing.

Without the power of public support your effort will be wasted - students must realise they are not just an isolated part of New Zealand

- what is happening to education is also happening to health, power generation, telecommunications, social welfare, etc.
- students are also part of an international student community.

The student movement must be comfortable with itself

- at the moment the impression is that students are not proud of being students

- they see themselves as just atomised individuals passing through the system
- won't be a student in a few years time so it doesn't matter
- selfish.

People in leadership roles within the student community must create a sense of a student movement

- must create a vision that tertiary education is not just a personal good but a society good.

- when you do this it becomes clear that there are plenty of non-students (a majority of the public) that are concerned about student/education issues
- parents, past/future students,

educationalists-unions, employers etc.

Secondary student movement - tertiary students should finance and encourage it because these are the future students, future voters

- also need to get to parents, educational staff etc: it shouldn't be "them and us" as both groups share significant concerns about education

- important to encourage that parents become active. This isn't just parents of present tertiary students, this is all parents of potential students - most of the population.

### Campaigning:

- the key to successful campaigning is strategising, strategising, strategising.
- a crucial part of strategising is to work out ways of involving everybody you can.

Campaigning is more than just lobbying, more than calling a march, more than inviting new people to a meeting

- it is finding effective ways to involve everyone. Having an inclusive organisational structure, involving, making it easy for new people to be a part.
- having sub-groups or encouraging new groups with different perspectives.

### A few words on lobbying:

- I view lobbying as potentially dangerous and try to keep it to a minimum
- There is always a risk of capture or sellout
- Lobbying can expose potential

weaknesses

- Should only lobby from strength
- If you are lobbying government then you should lobby caucus in preference to cabinet. Caucus is less ideologically rigid and you are much more likely to be sympathetically dealt with.
- most important thing to do is to campaign so effectively that you don't need to lobby.

**Campaigning in all its manifestations is:**

- involving the greatest number of people, finding something for everyone to do that doesn't just involve inviting them to meetings, making sure that the least interested signs a postcard - that the most active gets arrested for some creative civil disobedience ... and everything in between.

- posters, graffiti, paste-ups, stickers, banner painting sessions, voice bubbles, stalls in the malls, writing postcards, handing out materials.

- educating your own constituency; talking to your own groups, working out who your own potential allies are, talking to your allies and getting them involved, producing campaign materials- leaflets, magazines etc.

- researching your subject, letters to the editor writing

bees, writing to the politicians

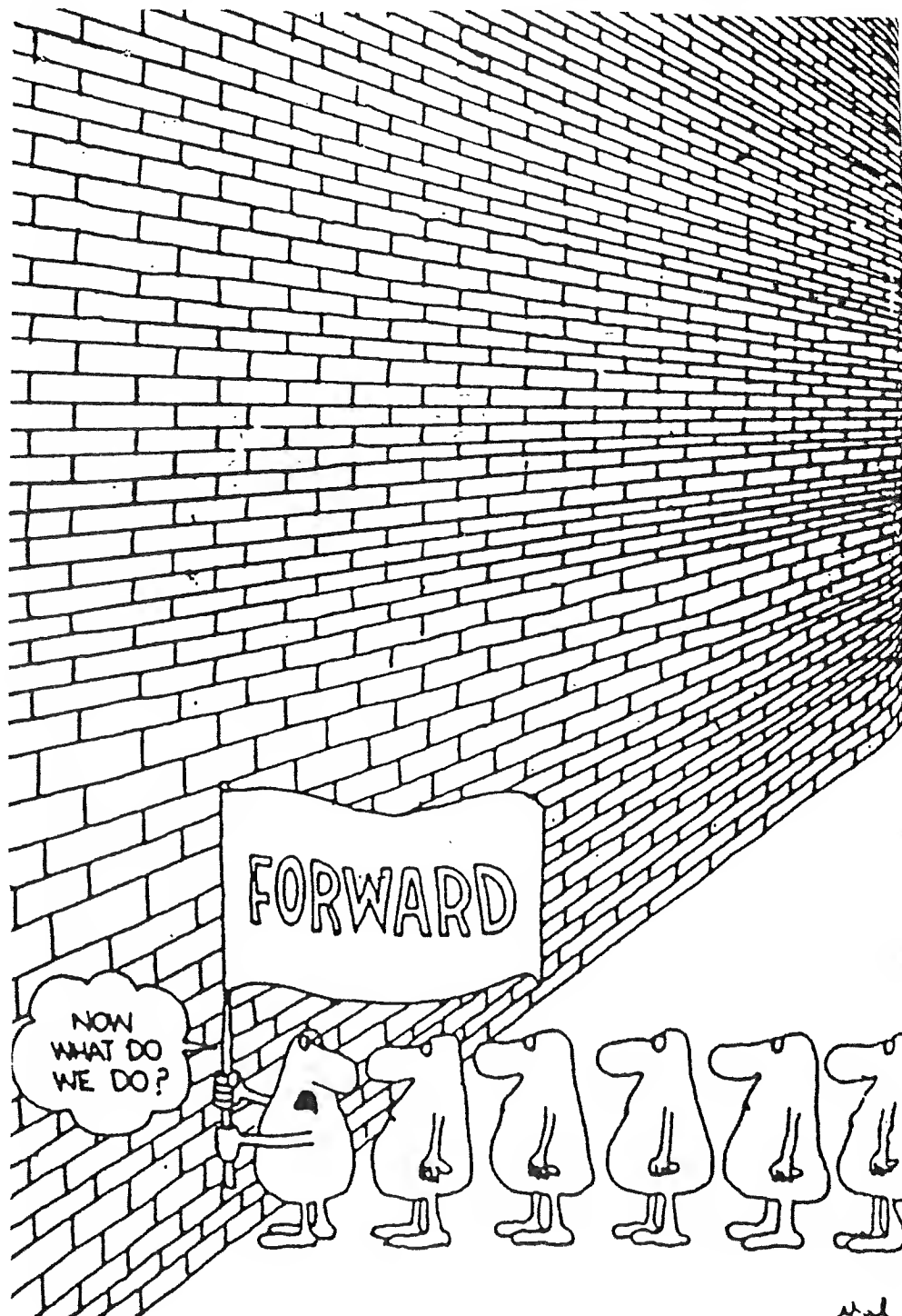
- media releases, media education.
- thinking up new and exciting actions, creative civil disobedience.
- encouraging new groups with different perspectives.
- having open, inclusive meetings.
- learning new skills then sharing them with the greatest number of others, growing

personally, enjoying yourselves.

**As part of movement building what does leadership mean?**

**Taking responsibility for strategising:**

- deciding what are your goals (short, medium, long-term)
- working out how you will know when you have achieved them.
- working out who all your allies are, and what aspects of your



cause they will be interested in. Getting them involved.

- working out who all your enemies are and why they are your enemies - can you neutralise their usefulness or effectiveness? Can you turn them into allies?

#### **Work out your campaign timeline.**

- what events are coming up that you can do something around?
- what are the key events in the student year which will effect the campaign?
- key events in the national political year, or three year political cycle?
- planning to get things done before exams.
- how to keep things going over the holidays
- planning regular media coverage of your issue
- putting out your own information sharing to students to keep them informed and a part of the movement.
- ensuring that the campaign is well serviced by relevant and timely research.
- ensuring that the campaign is inclusive and fun and that you are building a genuine student movement which is both relevant and effective.

- **Kevin Hackwell**  
12 Feb., 1994.

The slogan at the beginning of the 20th century was progress. The cry at the end of the 20th century is survival. The call for the next century is hope.

- the opening lines of **An Alliance of Hope: The Minamata Declaration**, 24th August, 1989, Minanata, Japan.

## *Indonesia's Colonisation of West Papua*

The people of East Timor are not the only indigenous people who are fighting against Indonesian sovereignty and oppression. In the South Molluccas thousands of hectares of traditional land has been alienated from the indigenous people, who have faced intensive programmes, aimed to acculturate them into the Javanese mainstream. The Weweya of Sumba in Eastern Indonesia have been heavily pressured to give up their "backward" religion, and in 1987 the government banned some of their ritual ceremonies. Further west, the Melanesian people of West Papua are also fighting Indonesian acculturation.

In West Papua there are approximately one million Melanesian people, the majority living in the interior and practicing shifting cultivation, or hunting and gathering. Some Papuans have been able to maintain their traditional lifestyles, partly due to the inaccessibility of the jungle interior and highlands to outsiders.

In the 1920s, the Dutch used West New Guinea as a penal camp for Indonesian nationalist troublemakers, and the region's potential for resource exploitation began to be realised when rich oil and mineral deposits were discovered. During World War II New Guinea was occupied by the Japanese, and then with the return of the Dutch after the war, West New Guinea's future became caught up with that of Indonesia.

After the War, an independent Indonesian state had been proclaimed, and after a continu-

ing violent and bloody struggle the Indonesian nationalists had gained independence from the Dutch in 1949. Indonesia's imperialist vision included a claim to West New Guinea, although the Melanesian Papuans not only lived on a different continent, but had a completely different culture to the Javanese. Their numerous languages were unrelated and they did not share an Islamic religion.

With a declining economy and regional fighting in the 1950s, Sukarno, who was President of Indonesia, was able to use the inclusion of West New Guinea into the state, as a theme to rally political support and encourage national unity. He began to build up a formidable military, first with the help of the Soviet Union, and later the United States, who wanted to counter the "communist influence".

The fate of West New Guinea was debated throughout the 1950s and 1960s with little notice taken of the Papuans who most commonly opposed an Indonesian takeover. Sukarno had the support of other nationalist leaders, including support from the United States and Australia. The multinationals were also keen for a settlement in Indonesia's favour because of New Guinea's vast oil and mineral resources. With the Dutch reluctant to engage in a war with Indonesia, West New Guinea became part of the Indonesian republic in 1963, and was renamed Irian Jaya.

The 1963 agreement made in New York involved an interim



stewardship by the United Nations, while an Indonesian administration was set up, followed by a referendum on independence six years later. In the six years after the agreement, Indonesia developed an increasingly strong military presence, all forms of Papuan nationalism were banned, the New Guinea council formed by the Dutch was dissolved, and the Indonesian language became compulsory.

The referendum or "Act of Free Choice" turned out to be a sham, with the United Nations supervisors finding themselves powerless under the stringent control of the Indonesians. Under death threats and intimidation, 1025 community leaders represented the population, and voted unanimously for continued inclusion in the Indonesian state. Effectively the Indonesian government was using the same system of colonisation and oppression among the Papuans, that they had experienced under the Dutch.

The Papuans have been victims of Indonesia's exploitation of their resources, especially oil, minerals, forestry and fishing. Mining projects in West Papua have earned enormous revenues for the Indonesian government, with the state earning 25 times the provinces budget from mining in 1980. Indonesia has also had a major policy to log West Papua primary forest, with the military organising locals to log the trees. Clans' traditional fishing waters have been depleted by foreign fishing companies, with few employment opportunities or compensation for the local people.

Indonesia has also had a continuing transmigration programme to West Papua, as well as the other "provinces", including East Timor. Transmigration is the resettlement of people who are loyal or dependent on

central government, to areas where the government wishes to establish control. By 1988 over 100,000 government sponsored migrants were living in West Papua, along with 180,000 "spontaneous" settlers from all over Indonesia. Traditional land has been acquired for transmigration sites through trickery and intimidation, with little or no compensation for the Papuans. As only about 3% of West Papua's land is suitable for agriculture this has meant sites have often been set up where Papuans have traditionally grown potato or sago. This forces Papuans into dependency on the market economy for survival, a common theme for many indigenous people.

Many transmigration sites have been set up along the border that divides West Papua and Papua New Guinea, an area that has largely been under the control of the Papuan guerilla fighters, the OPM. Clearly Indonesia has much more sinister reasons for its implementation of transmigration than reducing overpopulation in Java. Through the introduction of Indonesian outsiders, the Papuan people are slowly being displaced and Indonesia has been able to secure greater physical control of the "province".

In the village schools in West Papua today, the history of Indonesia centres on Java, and the Indonesian liberation of West Papua from the Dutch. Indonesian nationalist ideals are encouraged through flag raising, singing the anthem "Indonesia the Great", and learning the five principles of Pancasila which advocate social justice and democracy. The use of tribal languages is forbidden.

Thousands of Papuan families have been resettled, usually into permanent villages and to take up fixed agriculture. Villages

around the border areas have been strategically placed so that the military can control the population. The use of violence to displace the Papuans seems to have been commonplace. For Example: "Operation Clean Sweep" was a major military operation that aimed to destroy resistance on the border areas, and which was later extended into the highlands. The refugees who escaped into Papua New Guinea reported that families were often brutally murdered, and annihilation methods included the use of napalm and other chemical weapons. As many as 13,000 Papuans may have been killed.

The Papuans have never been passive recipients of the invasion of their land. The OPM, which translates to the Free Papua Movement, has been fighting against Indonesians for over twenty years. The OPM has gained support through an increasing number of Papuans being alienated from their land, and the ferociousness of Indonesian reprisals. One estimate suggests about 150,000 Melanesians have been killed since 1963.

Foreign governments, including New Zealand have done little to criticise Indonesia. An international aid consortium continues to give arms, training and development aid to Indonesia. The US has long term reasons for keeping Indonesia's favour. Apart from commercial interests, the Straits of Melacca are strategic shipping lanes. Australia has an eye to the oil and gas deposits near Timor, and wishes to maintain valuable trade agreements with Indonesia and other ASEAN countries. New Zealand remained indifferent to the future of the Papuan people, and continues to have trade and relations with Indonesia, including cooperating in military training.

• Kate McPherson

# *Minister Exits Through Window to Avoid Angry Students*

## MINISTER EXITS THROUGH WINDOW TO AVOID ANGRY STUDENTS

The Minister of Education Dr Lockwood Smith today made a hasty and cowardly exit out of the Electrical Engineering laboratory, according to Education Action Group (EAG) spokesperson Darren Kemp. The visit had been for the purpose of discussing Capital Charging arrangements at the university, it seems, but was unannounced. However, several hundred students packed the corridor outside the lab., once they heard of Lockwood's presence. Another group surrounded the ministerial car, preventing its removal until well after the Minister had departed by other means.

The EAG records the protest as an undeniable success, Mr. Kemp relates. Student and community dissatisfaction evidenced by the Occupation of the University of Canterbury registry five months ago has been militantly demonstrated again. Non-violent methods were retained by the EAG, and an air of disgust prevails at police assaults upon seven or more protest members, as a cruel diversion for the Minister's retreat by a secondary route

"We had intended to request assurances from Lockwood Smith," said Darren, "that capital charging proposals be dropped, that fees be frozen at the '94 level, prior to their removal, and that a universal living allowance

scheme be introduced. Unfortunately the Minister did not arrive at the registry concourse, where we had been expecting to receive him and deliver our requests, in expectation of some answers." Mr. Kemp went on to explain that students were also awaiting Dr. Smith's resignation, after his 1990 pledge to resign if the government did not abolish tertiary fees.

The message delivered to Lockwood at the Engineering Laboratory had been adequately clear, despite the changed location, the EAG believes. User-pays is unacceptable to the majority of New Zealanders in Education, Health and every other area where the interests of the citizens should be universally safe-guarded. High debt and reduced quality employment is a recipe for an unstable future. The EAG challenges the government to constructively meet the social and educational crisis that has now emerged beneath its superficial and restrictive 'economic recovery', instead of running away from debate. Immediate repeal of the Employment Contracts Act and reinstatement of viable welfare benefits and student allowances would be a sign that the National government had some idea of how New Zealanders are presently feeling, Mr. Kemp concluded.

13th April, 1994.  
Education Action Group  
University of Canterbury Students' Association  
90 Ilam Road  
Christchurch

Contact:  
Darren Kemp, Ph: (03) 3487  
069, Fax: 3480275.



*For a brief moment in history we managed to wipe the smirk off the brain-dead prat.*

# Students Have Just Had Enough!!

On Thursday 21st April, students across the country stood up and told New Zealand that we have had enough of being fucked over by the Government, by Treasury, by the Business Round Table, by the system. NZUSA deemed April 21st to be a National Day of Action - and what a day it was!

The main focus was the Todd Task force which is due to report on funding in tertiary education some time in the near future. Leaks before Easter indicated they were considering quadrupling our fees, totally

abolishing student allowances and introducing a new repayment scheme for student loans which would have us paying off our loans a lot quicker.

Auckland had 10 000 people march to Price Waterhouse to pay a visit to Geoff Todd (of Todd Task force fame) before they headed off to Aotea Square. 1000 people from Vic marched to Treasury and sat down, blocking the road outside.

Here in Dunedin 4000 students marched down the main street to

the Ministry of Education in the Exchange. This is the biggest mass action staged in Dunedin since 1989. Traffic was brought to a standstill when we sat down and occupied both lanes of one of the city's busiest intersections. Lockwood's infamous 1990 pledge to abolish tuition fees or resign was read and then ceremoniously ripped up and burned. The Exchange echoed to the chanting of "Lockwood's a wanker", by far the most popular chant of the day.

The first moment I realised how



big this action was going to be was during the rally. I turned around when I heard chanting and watched hundreds of Med and Dent students stream onto the Union lawn. They had marched from the Med and Dent schools, many of them wearing their lab coats, to join the rally. In itself this may not seem that significant. But these two faculties have in past been totally apathetic when it comes to student politics, so to get such a large turn-out for a march is amazing. To me, this shows that what is happening to education is affecting everyone and even those people who never worried about it really do give a shit now.

The Education Campaign around the country went from strength to strength last year and we have started this year with something we have not had in New Zealand for a long time - students who believe what is happening is wrong, students who want change, and most importantly, students who are angry enough to actually get out there and do something about it. We have a movement with a solid base and to the outside, we look pretty together and pretty damn scary.

We have to keep the pressure on, keep the protests up, keep demanding they listen to us. 1994 has the potential to be one full on year - a year when we could see very tangible results. Thursday showed me that if we all stand up together and shout loud enough in one voice, we have power. And with that power, we can make them listen to us and with that power we can win the fight. Not just the fight for Free Education, not just the fight against User Pays, but the fight for a better society, a society we can be proud to live in.

- Anita Waters.

## *ASA Update: Stop the Massacre*

### **Hebron is one of many others.**

Of all the West Bank towns, it is in Hebron that Israeli occupation is at its most tangible. Jewish settlements built on confiscated Palestinian land form a stranglehold around the city and fanatical religious settlers such as those belonging to the Kach movement, have taken over buildings and whole areas in the centre under the protection of the Israeli army. Hebron was also the site of the latest cold-blooded massacre of Palestinian people.

The fragile intricacies of the peace process in Palestine was shattered last February 25th when an armed Jewish settler indiscriminately fired at a crowd of Palestinian Muslims in their morning prayers at the Tomb of the Patriarch in Hebron. The massacre claimed the lives of over 60 Palestinians and caused injuries to over 256 others.

A spate of protest manifestations over the Hebron massacre erupted all over Occupied Palestine and led to the killing of about 30 more Palestinian demonstrators by the Israeli army. And while curfews were imposed in West Bank and Gaza Strip, Jewish settlers continued to roam the street toting high-powered guns.

The Hebron massacre is not an isolated case. It is but one amongst so many

atrocities despite the signing of the peace accord. Old atrocious practices to punish and eliminate the Palestinians from their own land, such as demolition of houses, land confiscation and curfews and area closures, military raids and uprootment of trees and crops continue.

It is unacceptable that the Hebron massacre happened despite the peace negotiations. Should the Israeli government remain indecisive in enforcing strict control over the Jewish settlers, the peace negotiations will certainly go to tatters. How can the peace process proceed in the Occupied Territories if settlers are allowed to roam the streets with guns, if fanatic Jewish groups such as the Kach are tolerated, if Israel continues to exercise a tight rein using their usual occupation tactics against the Palestine people? Finally, two anti-Arab groups were outlawed days after the massacre, but that is such a small concession to an occupied people crying for justice, struggling to have their homeland back.

- Asian Students Association, March, 1994.

*"Just to say  
freedom is  
possible is the  
first step  
towards  
being free."*



# Unemployed Fight Back!

The weekend of the 26th-29th of March heralded a powerful new beginning for the Aotearoa Network of Unemployed and Beneficiaries with an occupation of the Reserve Bank. As one of the protesters who occupied the Reserve Bank this action meant more than a media stunt to bring the serious issue of unemployment into the public eye. For me this action was a cry of anger towards a society created to uphold the rich and powerful at the expense of those who are not. It was an experience of shared joy as we chanted and sang, hearing our

own voices question, challenge and condemn those of the Business Round Table, a false government that is losing fast any economic sovereignty this country may have had, and those transnational corporations that do not give a fuck about people as long as they are making a buck. To sing songs we have created ourselves in turn creates a feeling of common vision, of strength, of community - a way forward. Together we can create a world that is not like this.

People question the fact that I

was arrested at this action, whether this will affect my career chances. It seems faintly ironic, my career chances are already very slim in this country where many young people have been six years on the dole without having ever worked. And if I am lucky enough to find work, how high is the chance that I will enjoy it or feel gratified in doing that job? The Employment Contracts Act seems to have rendered that possibility fairly slim. Yet I do work, mostly this is of the kind that is not often recognised as work - and from this work stems my hope for the





future.

The fact that I have been lucky enough to meet other people working for a world not like this, for progressive change, for resistance, has given me a sense of community quite like never before. This action at the Reserve Bank held within it a sense of hope, of belief in shared actions.

*"Freedom is the  
consciousness of  
our desires."*

France, 1968.

People of Aotearoa

People of Aotearoa  
Make a stand and fight on  
forever  
Unite all our children  
Make it seem hopeful to  
them.  
Teach them to love one  
another  
Tell them that we will  
recover  
Tell them that we are the  
ones  
Who will fight on to the  
end.

Tihe mauri ora  
E nga iwi o Aotearoa  
Kia kaha, kia mana, kia  
mau.  
Thanks to Sue Bradford and  
Chris Skinner.

**I will keep singing this song  
for the rest of my life.**

Kia ora e hoa ma.  
Cybele.

## The New Energy Market: Vultures gather on the Power Lines.

The 1992 electricity Act comes into full effect as of April 1, 1994. from then, the country's power supply companies can compete in the lucrative market of major electricity users. For their first 12 months, they were confined to competing nationwide for customers using less than 0.5 gigawatt hours per year (ie equivalent to a small motel or supermarket). they will also be able to but all their power from ECNZ on the "spot" market, where the price varies from week to week according to the cost of production. Previously they could but only 10% on that. Long before deregulation, six of the very biggest electricity users - Comalco, Tasman Pulp and Paper, BHP NZ Steel, Winstone Pulp International, Pan Pacific Forest Industries, and NZ Rail - had negotiated their own direct electricity purchases from ECNZ. Now this end user direct purchase will become much more the norm. There is going to be a feeding frenzy among energy companies.

Some people are positing themselves to make big money. One such specialist parasite is the newly formed Infrastructure and Utilities NZ Ltd (Infratil). Created by merchant banker Lloyd Morrison, it is seeking to raise \$50 million on the share market. It is owned 80% by Morrison and Co., and 20% by Duncan Saville, a director of the appropriately named, UK listed, Foreign and Colonial Special Utilities Investment Trust. It plans to invest in power generation, transmission and supply; telecommunications networks and services; natural gas projects; ports; airports; and other infrastructure such as water, sewerage, postal services and roads. It is likely to invest in Clear, Telecom, Natural Gas Corporation, the five newly privatised power companies, and port companies in Whangarei.

Auckland and Tauranga. It aims to make a killing, describing the infrastructure and utilities sector as "a bit of a laggard" ('Press', 19/2/94). In the near future, it most likely will invest in the six electricity companies that plan to list of the Stock Exchange in 1994. Infrastructure speculation is definitely a growth area in our ideological mentors. There are several such funds in the UK's deregulated industry, and the US.

So these are the sorts of vultures now perching on the lines of all New Zealand electricity users. Throughout the country people are engaged in battles to retain control of their local electricity suppliers, and indeed it needs a national response. For example, Westpower is campaign in Waitemata. There, Power New Zealand has borrowed 60 million from the National Bank, in order to buy \$33.8 million worth of shares in Energy Direct, the Hutt Valley Power Company. Problem is, Power New Zealand, which plans to be a merger of Waitemata Electricity and Thames Valley Power, has no legal standing yet, because of a successful court challenge (under appeal). Despite Power NZ being a shelf company with only a \$100 in capital, it has put the two power boards assets as security for the loan.

These crazy wheeler - dealer antics are reminiscent of the very worst excesses of the 1980's in the corporate private sector, and the newly corporatised public sector seems doomed to repeat them. The truly frightening thing is that there is no national strategy for sustainable energy.

From "All in not well in Hamilton", by Karen Rosenblum-Cale, in Foreign Control Watchdog

# Lockwood visits the South

Yes, he tried it again. Friday April 8th, Lockwood Smith tried to sneak into Dunedin to talk at a conference of South Island Deputy Principals.

A tip-off from our ever so reliable sources saw about 30 Otago University students trudge down to the Octagon bearing placards and banners to await the prat's arrival. In the fine tradition of Otago protests, we were nice and vocal, attracting quite a bit of attention from the lunchtime crowd.

The conference goers also came out and listened for a while. Apart from one fascist who said that varsity fees should go up, they were all very supportive.

Our ever so friendly coppers were also there in full force - about 25 of them, including the Diplomatic Protection Squad. This may have been because of some weird and wonderful story that they had heard - apparently we were going to use a large car to block the entrance outside the conference centre and then pelt Lockie with multitudes of flour bombs from inside the said car. If only we had thought of that ...

When the toothed wonder finally arrived, he made a flying leap from his car, through the door and into the conference, without so much as a hello. Didn't really seem like he wanted to hang around and chat to us - surprisingly really considering how much Lockwood thinks students love him.

When he finished his speech to the conference, Lockwood sneaked out a back door (are you surprised?). Such was his hurry that they didn't even stop to pick up the hubcap that fell off his ever so swanky ministerial

car.

The protesters then marched back to varsity, banners held proudly, chanting loudly. A small diversion on the way led us past the National Party Headquarters. The locks on all the doors clicked as we approached the office - maybe they were scared of facing us. We banged on the windows and chanted some more while they phoned the police, and we then carried on back to varsity. Everyone felt very positive about the action and its success.

## AND THEN ..

Who would believe it, only 5 days after trying to ignore Otago Students, Lockwood actually thought he could waltz around the Canterbury University campus without talking to students!! (See page 10)

# GUNSAFE

Gunsafe is New Zealand's first and only gun control group. They want to put a lid on the abuse of guns.

While they have recieved considerable public suport (and support from some politicians), the Gun Lobby in New Zealand is stronger than we think - there are over 300 shooting clubs and a dozen big umbrella groups. Most are responsible in their views, but NRA like extremists are present too.

If you don't think guns are a problem in NZ, how many do you think there are in metropolitan Auckland alone? 300,000.

Contact Gunsafe at PO Box 5558 Auckland, phone 479-2204.

# Parliament of the Streets

## 1973 Vietnam War

New Zealand troops are brought home after five years of mounting protests involving thousands.

## 1977-78 Bastion Point

A 506 day land occupation becomes a symbol of Maori land grievances around the country. Cash settlements and the return of land is eventually negotiated.

## 1979-80 Education Fightback

The government backs away from 3% cuts to education spending after two years of protests involving national demonstrations of 11,000 students and teachers.

## 1981 Springbok Tour

Sporting contact with South Africa's apartheid regime ends when public opinion moves in behind the anti-apartheid movement amid unprecedented demonstrations of tens of thousands of citizens at a time.

## 1984 Nuclear Free New Zealand

The National government is thrown out of office and Labour pledges to end nuclear warship visits amidst massive street marches of twenty to thirty thousands.

## 1990 Student Loans

Labour abandons its controversial student loans proposal after widespread protests see a third of the university population on the streets. National MPs publicly pledge to abolish the \$1250 tuition fee.

## 1990-91 Hospital closures

Proposals for the closure of provincial hospitals are abandoned after waves of protest involving nearly the whole populations of small towns. 4,500 in Pukekohe, 10,000 in the Wairarapa ...

## 1991 Superannuation

The government abandons an increase in the surcharge on superannulants after tens of thousands turn out for mass meetings in marginal electorates around the country.

## 1991 Auckland Port Sale

The Auckland Regional Council abandons proposals to sell the Port of Auckland after Radio Pacific captures public dissatisfaction with public asset sales and mobilises 50,000 people to write to the council.

## 1993 Hospital Charges

A year-long campaign of refusal to pay the unpopular hospital charges by tens of thousands forced the National government to abandon them and led to the removal of the Minister of Health.

## DEAR AYNERS!!!

### Subscriptions :

\$9 Unwaged  
\$18 Waged  
\$25 Organisation  
\$50 Institution

Thanks once again to those of you who have responded to articles you have read in this magazine by sending articles you have written yourselves or letters, you are the people who make Aotearoa Youth Network magazine what it is!! Unfortunately there will not be an AYN Training Camp this May due to lack of funds but never fear, the idea has certainly not been forgotten. Hopefully I will see some of you at the National Peace Workshops and we can discuss ideas about future directions for this magazine and building a more organised network of activists around the country. Keep acting, keep building.

Kia kaha!  
Cybele.

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### WHATS COMING UP?

Education Action Conference  
NZUSA: Fri. 29th - Mon. 2nd.  
Wellington.

Teschmakers: Oamaru  
13th - 15th May, 1994  
Technology with a human face.

National Peace Workshops:  
Queen's Birthday Weekend,  
In Wellington.

Aotearoa Youth Network  
111 Moray Place  
Dunedin